



Chinese Tale Series



中国神话故事

Yu the Great Conquered the Flood

大禹治水



DOLPHIN BOOKS

海豚出版社



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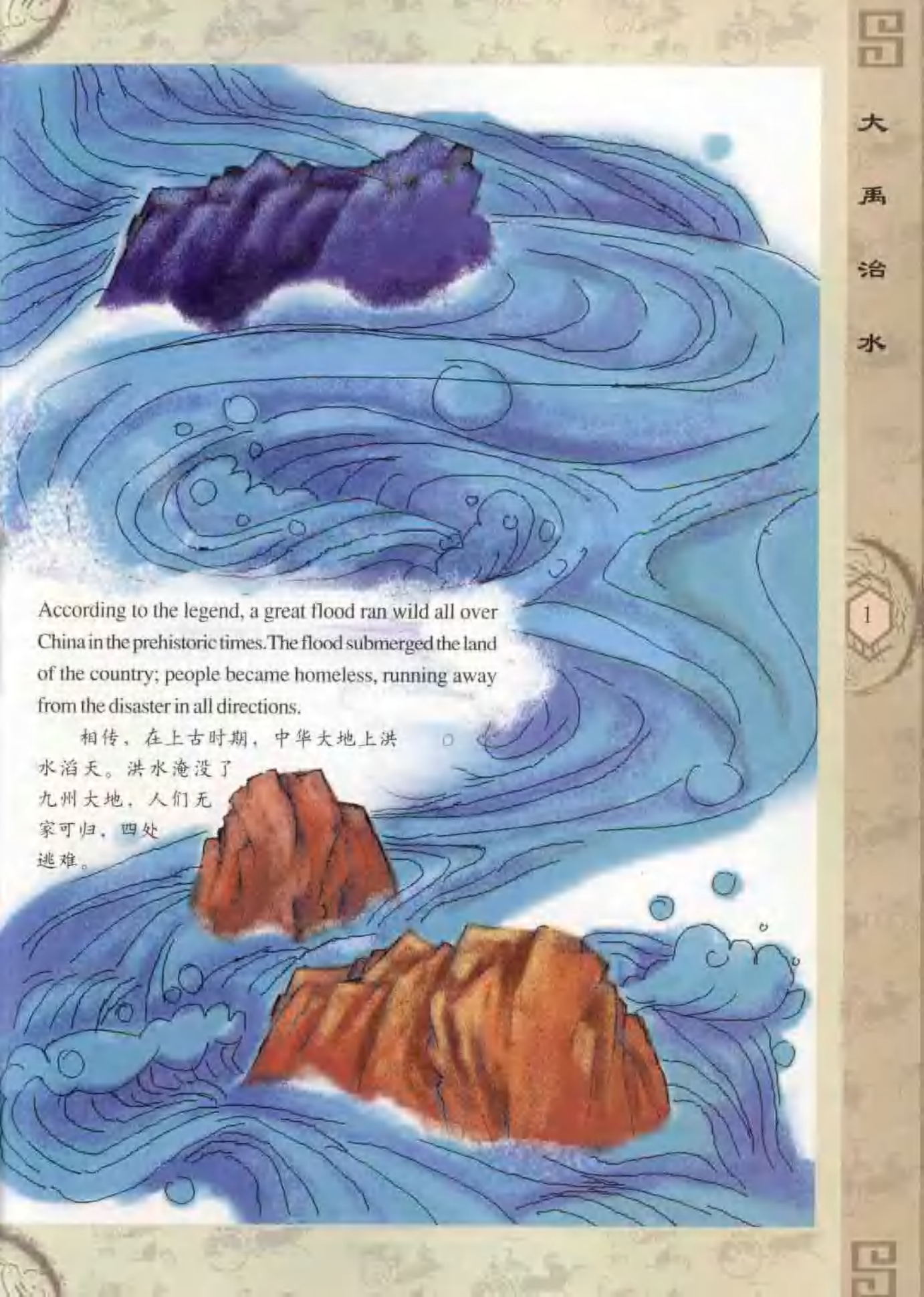
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According to the legend, a great flood ran wild all over China in the prehistoric times. The flood submerged the land of the country; people became homeless, running away from the disaster in all directions.

相传，在上古时期，中华大地上洪水滔天。洪水淹没了九州大地，人们无家可归，四处逃难。

Many people died from the flood and famine, and those who had survived became destitute and homeless, living a miserable life. Every place was filled with a dismal and sad atmosphere.

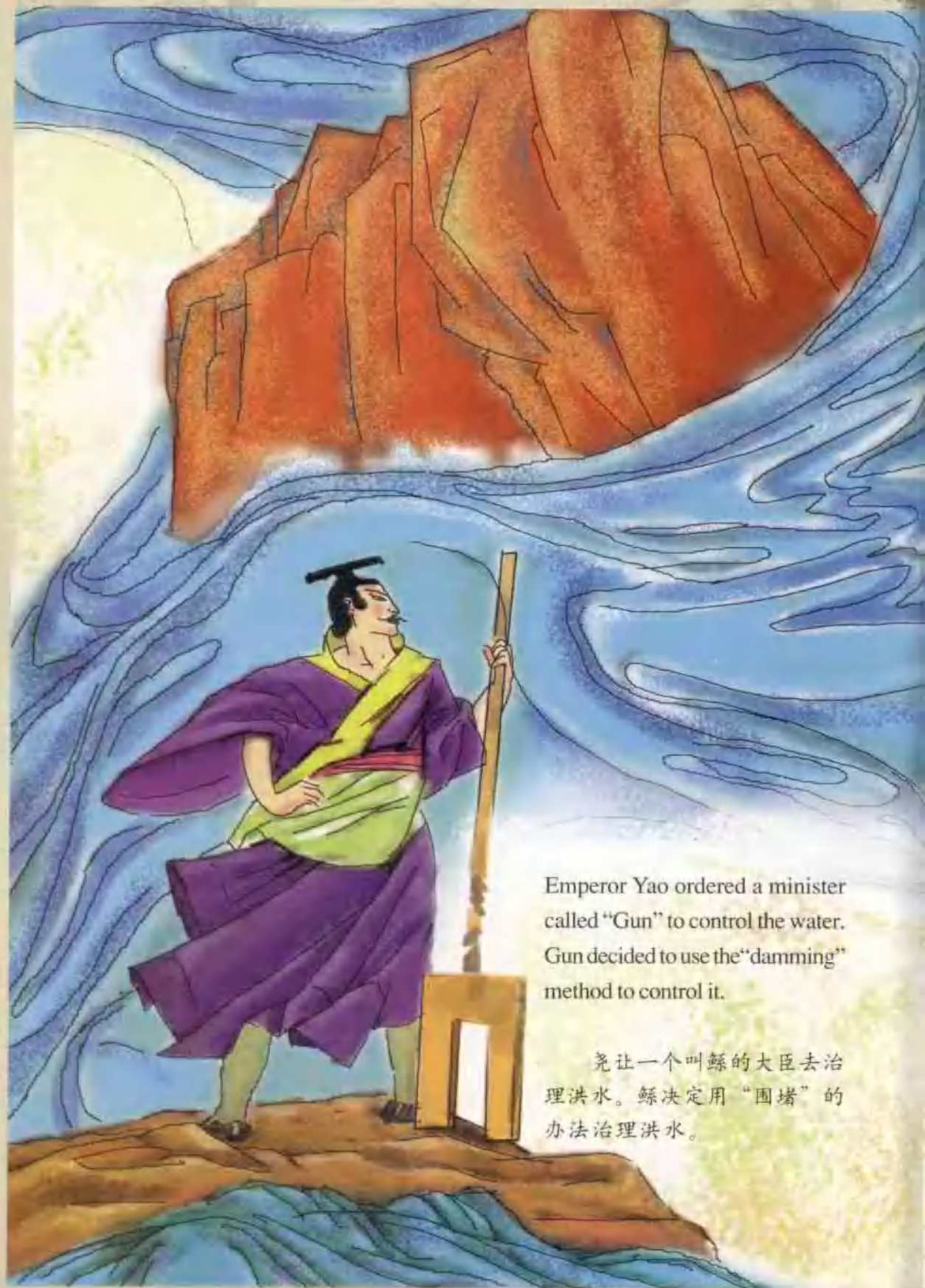
在洪水和饥荒中，人们大批死亡，活着的人流离失所，无家可归，苦不堪言，到处都弥漫着悲哀凄凉的气氛。





Having seen the people suffering, Emperor Yao, the ruler of the day, was determined to control the flood to save the common people.

当时的统治者尧看到百姓受苦受难，决心治理洪水，拯救黎民百姓。



Emperor Yao ordered a minister called "Gun" to control the water. Gun decided to use the "damming" method to control it.

尧让一个叫鲧的大臣去治理洪水。鲧决定用“围堵”的办法治理洪水。



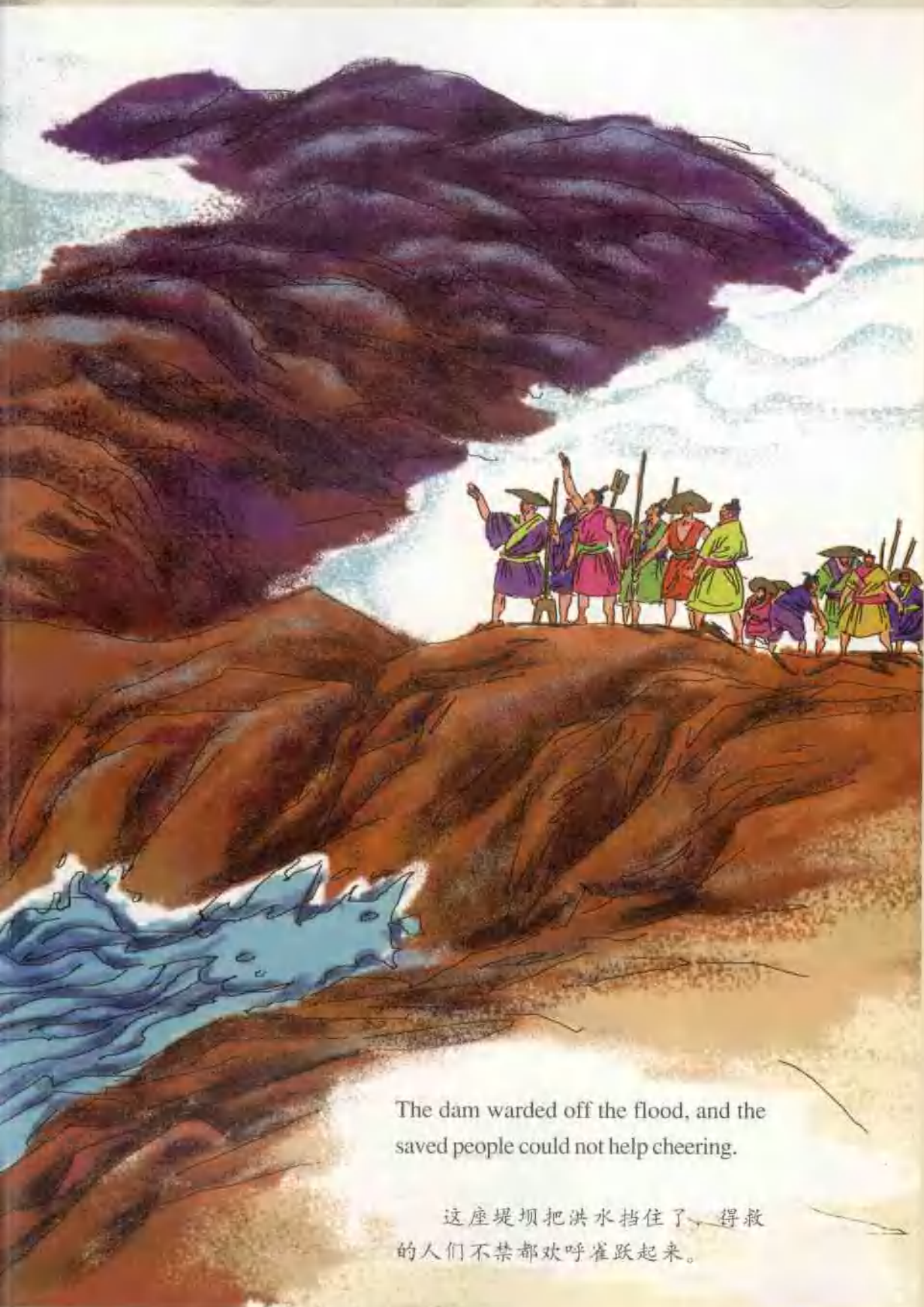
There was a magic earth called "*xirang*" in the heaven, which could grow by itself without stop. One night, Gun sneaked into the heaven, and stole the *xirang* out.

天庭有一种叫息壤的神土，可以自己生长不息。一天夜里，鲧偷偷跑到天庭把息壤偷了出来。

Gun brought *xirang* to the place where the flood was the most monstrous, and he spread it to the ground. Then, *xirang* grew automatically, and it became a big and high dam immediately.

鲧来到洪水肆虐得最凶猛的地方，把息壤撒向大地，只见息壤自动生长起来，很快就变成了一座又高又大的堤坝。





The dam warded off the flood, and the saved people could not help cheering.

这座堤坝把洪水挡住了，得救的人们不禁都欢呼雀跃起来。



They returned to their homeland to build houses and cultivate their farmland, and began to lead a stable life.

他们重新回到自己的家园，建造房屋，耕种农田，开始过上了安定的日子。



God was very angry when he learned that *xirang* had been stolen. He ordered Zhu Rong, the God of Fire, to arrest Gun.

天帝得知息壤被鯀偷走，非常生气。他命令火神祝融去捉拿鯀。

Gun fought with Zhu Rong drastically, and finally drove Zhu Rong back to the heaven.

鲧和祝融拼杀得非常惨烈，最后鲧把祝融赶回了天庭。



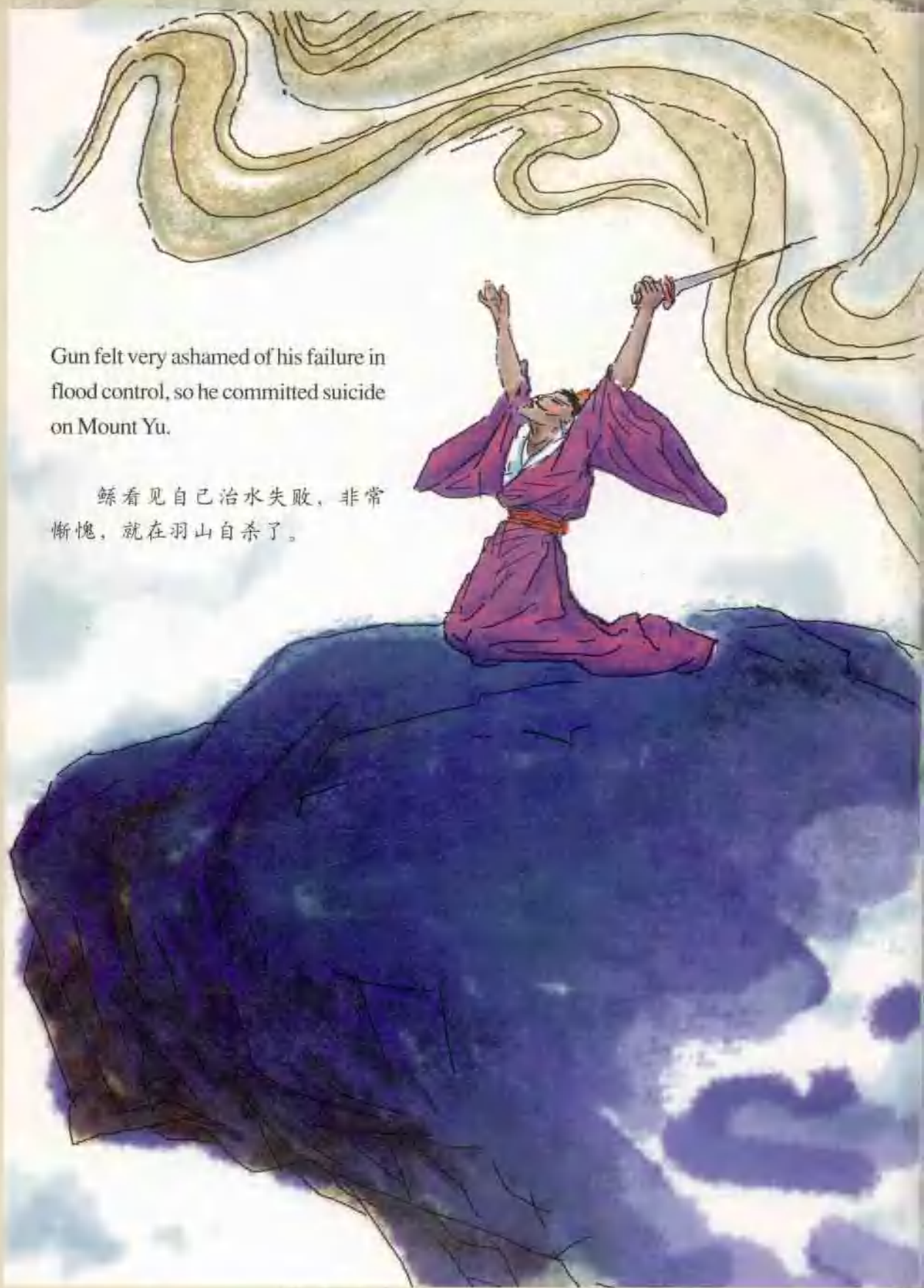


The flood rose higher and higher, and finally overflowed the dam, running wild on the earth again.

洪水越涨越高，终于漫过了堤坝，又开始在大地上肆虐。

Gun felt very ashamed of his failure in flood control, so he committed suicide on Mount Yu.

鲧看见自己治水失败，非常惭愧，就在羽山自杀了。



After Emperor Yao died, his successor, Emperor Shun asked his ministers to control the flood again. When the ministers all looked at each other in despair, a youngster stood up, saying he would go to control the flood. The youngster was Yu the Great, son of Gun.

尧死后，继任君主舜命令大臣再去治水，但是人们都知道治水是一项非常艰难的工程，不敢承担任务，这时，一个少年站出来，说他愿意前往治水。这少年正是鲧的儿子大禹。



Then Emperor Shun commissioned Yu the Great to undertake the task.

舜便委任大禹来承担这项治水任务。



Yu the Great reached the riverside, and began to lead the people in their fight against flood. They split the mountain to remove earth and build a dam night and day, to stop the flood.

大禹赶到江边，开始带领人们与洪水搏斗。他们日夜不停地劈山填土，筑堤造坝，阻拦洪水的泛滥。

